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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/054,579	01/22/2002	C. Alexander Turner JR.	LEX-0300-USA	7725
7590	02/23/2004		EXAMINER	
Lance K. Ishimoto Lexicon Genetics Incorporated 4000 Research Forest Drive The Woodlands, TX 77381			MONSHIPOURI, MARYAM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1652	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/054,579	LEXICON GENETICS INCORPORATED	
	Examiner Maryam Monshipouri	Art Unit 1652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

4) Claim(s) 1,3 and 6-10 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 3 and 6-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) *Filed 5/11/02*

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *5/11/02* *2/26/03*

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: ____

Applicant's response to restriction requirement filed 11/10/2003 is acknowledged.

Applicant requested rejoinder of Groups I-II invention, even though he/she provisionally elected Group I invention. In response to applicant's request Groups I-II are rejoined.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8-10 are under examination on the merits. Claims 2, 4-5 and 7 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is noted that SEQ ID NO:1 of this invention is of 2007 nucleotides in length, while SEQ ID NO:3 of this invention is of 1827 nucleotides in length. It is not clear how the expression vector of claim 6 or host cell of claim 9 comprising SEQ ID NO:3 can comprise SEQ ID NO:1, which is longer. If applicant means that said vector and said host comprise both sequences simultaneously, he/she has to clearly indicate that in said claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 3, 6, 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bandman et al. (U.S. Publication No: 2003/0207299, filed Nov. 1, 2002). Bandman teaches an isolated nucleic acid molecule (see its SEQ ID NO:42 in the attached alignment) which has 100% identity to SEQ ID NO:3 of this invention, anticipating claim 3. In page 25, Bandman teaches about a variety of recombinant expression vectors used for its nucleic acid molecules, anticipating claim 6 and 8. In pages 20-21 Bandman also teaches about host cells which may be transformed or transected by all its nucleic acids including SEQ ID NO:42, anticipating claims 9-10.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 1 is allowed. This is because an isolated nucleic acid sequence having SEQ ID NO:1 is free of prior art. Further, the prior art does not teach or suggest preparing such specifically claimed nucleic acid sequence. Hence said sequence is also non-obvious.

NOTE:

Claim 1 (i.e. DNA encoding SEQ ID NO:2) of the following U.S. Patent is of relevance to this invention.

U.S. Patent No. 6,455,292, issued 9/24/2002.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maryam Monshipouri whose telephone number is (571)

272- 0932. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 a.m to 5:30 p.m. except for Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnanthapu Achutamurthy can be reached on (571) 272-0928. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Maryam Monshipouri

Maryam Monshipouri Ph.D.

Primary Examiner
